

Arkansas Hospitality Association

Representing Arkansas Restaurant Association, Arkansas Lodging Association, and Arkansas Travel Council

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May 27, 2011

Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: In the Matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations; (WT Proceeding - No. 11-65).

Dear Commissioners:

As you deliberate over the proposed merger between T-Mobile and AT&T, please be mindful of those businesses and communities that currently operate without some of the technological luxuries of their counterparts in major cities. As the Executive Director of the Arkansas Hospitality Association (AHA) I join those in favor of the merger because of the many benefits of mobile broadband expansion for the hospitality and tourism industry.

My organization is the official voice of the restaurant and entertainment, hotel and lodging, and travel and tourism industries in Arkansas. In parts of our state, tourism is major part of commerce; some parts of the state rely heavily on tourism for their development and income.

I know first-hand how important it is to send timely information out via mobile broadband. The ability to stay ahead of the curve and create businesses that are more responsive to consumers will help boost hospitality and tourism throughout the state, thereby strengthening the economy and promoting job growth.

Bringing faster speeds through 4G is imperative for the pocketbooks and economic wellbeing of those involved in the Arkansas hospitality and tourism sector. Broadband delivers real time information and logistical support which is crucial to the success of our trade. An enhanced wireless infrastructure, which this business partnership will support, can make all the difference for our restaurants, hotels and tourist guides located in areas outside of urban centers.

As members of the Arkansas business community and as an organization that promotes the interests of a complex industry comprised of small businesses, I recommend that the T-Mobile and AT&T merger be allowed to move forward. I thank you in advance for your time and your commitment to bringing broadband technology to more Americans.

Sincerely,



Montine McNulty
Executive Director
Arkansas Hospitality Association

CC:
Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell